



Hymn: “Give Me Thy Heart”

Give Me thy heart says the Father above, no gift so precious to Him as our love...

“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life...” I Timothy 6:12

The root word “heart” means “the center of anything.” This month as we continue our preparation for establishing the cause of Zion, let us consider the great battle we are engaged in: The Battle for our Hearts.

At the time of creation we were given a precious gift, agency. This is the ability to choose between good and evil, light and dark. On the very first day of creation God set in motion the very tools we would need to engage in this battle with His creation of light.

Genesis 1:6-8 And I, God, said, Let there be light, and there was light. And I, God, saw the light, and that light was good. And I, God, divided the light from the darkness. And I, God, called the light day, and the darkness I called night. And this I did by the word of My power; and it was done as I

spake. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Apostle Arthur Oakman was shown the creation. He heard the words, “Let there be light.” What he saw as he heard those words was described as a spirit being born into the darkness—a spirit of light, wisdom, and intelligence. There are many scriptures that list the attributes of this “light” and how, if embraced, it enlightens the souls of men.

D&C 85:3a-b And the light which now shineth, which giveth you light, is through Him who enlighteneth your eyes, which is the same light that quickeneth your understandings; which light proceedeth forth from the

March 2020, Lesson #3

presence of God, to fill the immensity of space.

The light which is in all things; which giveth life to all things; which is the law by which all things are governed; even the power of God who sitteth upon His throne, who is in the bosom of eternity, who is in the midst of all things.

Doctrine & Covenants, Section 85:10 a-c, goes on to list even more attributes of “light”: intelligence, wisdom, truth, virtue, mercy, justice and judgment. **This is the “light of Christ” and it can transform our lives.** Think of examples from the scriptures that describe and tell of the transformation that people experienced when filled with this light. One example would be King Lamoni from the Book of Mormon:

Alma 12:132-135 Now this was what Ammon desired, for he knew that King Lamoni was under the power of God; He knew that the dark veil of unbelief being cast away from his mind, and the light which did light up his mind, which was the light of the glory of God, which was a marvelous light of his goodness.

Yea, this light had infused such joy into his soul, the cloud of darkness having been dispelled, and that the light of everlasting light was lit up in his soul; Yea, he knew that this had overcome his natural frame, and he was carried away in God.

We see also on the first day of creation that God separated the light from the dark, thus creating the foundation or atmosphere for the spirit of opposition to exist that we might be given the gift of agency.

2 Nephi 1: 81-83 For it must needs be, that there is an opposition in all things. If not so, my first born in the wilderness, righteousness could not be brought to pass; neither wickedness; neither holiness nor misery; neither good nor bad. Wherefore, all things must needs be a compound in one.

2 Nephi 1:94-100 And now, my son, I speak unto you these things, for your profit and learning: For there is a God, and He hath created all things, both the heavens and the earth, and all things that in them is; Both things to act, and things to be acted upon; And to bring about His eternal purposes in the end of man, after He had created our first parents, and the beasts of the field and the fowls of the air, and in fine, all things which are created, it must needs be that there was an opposition; Even the forbidden fruit in opposition to the tree of life; the one being sweet and the other bitter; Wherefore, the Lord God gave unto man, that he should act for himself. Wherefore, man could not act for himself, save it should be that he was enticed by the one or the other.

Man is in a fallen state. We battle with the natural man (carnal, sensual and devilish) and the spiritual enticings of God. Ladies, we are in a daily battle for our hearts, our minds and our will. Let us bow down before our Creator, in submission and commit our life daily, into the Father’s hands. It seems like it would be an easy choice but darkness pleases our carnal nature and the power and pull of the flesh has the ability to rage within us or

March 2020, Lesson #3

blind us into complacency. This month let us put on the full armor of God and battle those areas of darkness that linger in our lives.

Ephesians 6:10-18 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. **Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day.**

What have you given your heart to? Elder Howard Parker said in a sermon, "**All unused time will flow to your weakness**

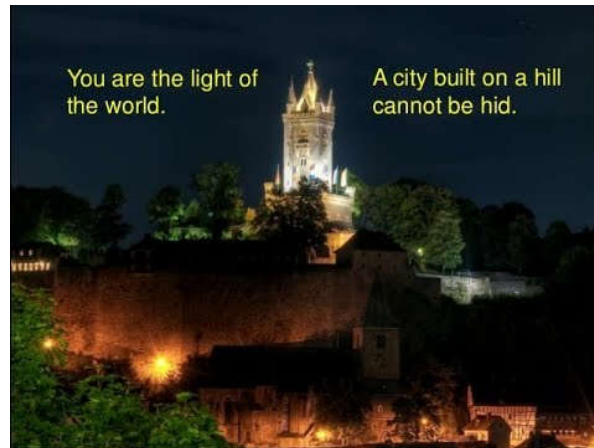
and our actions follow our heart."
It's an issue of the heart.

We have been placed here, in this time, to help establish the cause of Zion. Do you hear the trumpet sounding? We must move out of the valley of decision and commit our lives with meaning and purpose to this great calling. Lift up a standard of "light," even the light of Christ, in your life, in your home, and wherever you may be. Cleave unto that which is good. Give the Lord your heart!

"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life," 1 Tim. 6:12.

Also See: 2 Nephi 12:61-128, Alma 19:84-116, John 1:1-12, Ephesians 6:11-18, Alma 9:41, Alma 16:228, 1 Peter 1:19, 2 Nephi 11:23, Moroni 7:13, D&C 50:6b, 1 Kings 18:21, 37, James 1:12-15, James 4:8, Exodus 35:5, Matthew 5:8, Psalms 66:18, Psalms 96:13; Proverbs 23:7; D&C 38:9c; Hebrews 12:11

March 2020, Lesson #3



Matthew 5:16-18 Verily, verily, I say unto you, I give unto you to be the light of the world; a city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.

17 Behold, do men light a candle and put it under a bushel? Nay, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light to all that are in the house.

18 Therefore, let your light so shine before this world, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

I Thessalonians 5:4-9 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.

5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness.

6 Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. (We need to wake up.)

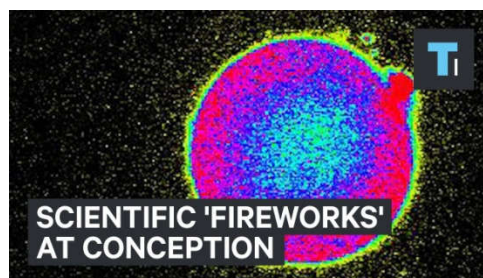
7 For they that sleep, sleep in the night; and they that be drunken are drunken in the night.

8 But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.

D&C 85:3 which light proceedeth forth from the presence of God, to fill the immensity of space.

3b The light which is in all things; which giveth life to all things.



March 2020, Lesson #3

Functions of the Holy Spirit (1)

In Greek, the word “comforter” means, “The one who the Lord will call alongside of to give assistance.” The Greek also means: an intercessor, counselor, and advocate. The Holy Spirit does assist us in our journey in life. In times of sorrow he assists us by comforting us and consoling us; in times of weakness he strengthens us; in times of fear he can cause us to feel peaceful and calm. He is there to assist us, by guiding, directing and helping us on our journey through this life. His functions are very numerous and I know I have not listed them all. The help of the Holy Spirit is vital to our success in reaching our goal at the end of life’s journey.

I hope each of you will invite Him to be a part of your daily journey.

Leading = [1 Nephi 1:106](#) “I was led by the Spirit.”

Constraining = [Alma 10:50](#) “The Spirit constraineth me.”

Persuading = [Ether 1:106](#) “Because of My Spirit, he shall know that these things are true; for it persuadeth men to do good.”

Enticing = [Mosiah 1:120](#) “The enticings of the Holy Spirit.”

Transporting = [II Nephi 3:40](#) “Upon the wings of His Spirit hath my body been carried away upon exceeding high mountains.” Also read: [Acts 8:26-40](#)

Teaching & bringing all things to your remembrance = [John 14:26](#) “He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance.”

Testifying of Christ = [John 15:26](#) “Even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of Me.” Also read: [I Cor. 12:3](#), [Moroni 10:5](#), [III Nephi 5:33](#)

Will guide you into all truth & speak of things to come = [John 16:13](#) “Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth.... And He will show you things to come.”

He warns us = [Acts 16:6-7](#) “Were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, after they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia; but the Spirit suffered them not.”

He helps us to pray & intercedes for us = [Romans 8:26](#) “The Spirit also helpeth our infirmities; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”

Testifies to us that we are the children of God = [Romans 8:13-16](#) “The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”

Deep things of God revealed to us by the Spirit = [I Cor. 2:10](#) “But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit; for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea the deep things of God.” Also read: [1 Nephi 3:30](#)

Eyes opened and our understanding enlightened = [D&C 76:2](#) “By the power of the Spirit our eyes were opened, and our understandings were enlightened.”

Spirit of Revelation = [D&C 76:2](#) “Now behold, this is the Spirit of revelation.”

Functions of the Holy Spirit (2)

I hope each of you will invite Him to be a part of your daily journey.

Gifts of the Spirit given to us by the Holy Spirit = [I Cor. 12:4-11](#) “For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit.” Also read: [Moroni 10:8-9](#)

A unifying force = [1 Cor. 12:12-27](#) “For by the Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.....That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another.” Also read: [Eph. 4:1-6](#)

Enlightens our minds & gives us joy = [D&C 10:7](#) “Verily, verily I say unto you, I will impart unto you of my Spirit, which shall enlighten your mind, which shall fill your soul with joy.” Also read: [Mosiah 2:5](#)

Empowers us & even empowers us in building the Kingdom = [I Nephi 3:187](#) “Blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth My Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and power of the Holy Ghost. Also read: [Moroni 10:7](#)

Lord works by it = [III Nephi 13:59](#) “The Lord worketh...by the power of the Holy Ghost.”

Gives Testimony = [Alma 5:28](#) “The Holy Spirit which testifieth in me.”

Inspires scripture = [I Nephi 1:83](#) “The words which have been spoken by the mouth of all the holy prophets...have been delivered unto them by the Spirit and power of God.”

Sanctifies = [Alma 10:4](#) “Being Sanctified by the Holy Ghost”

Reveals = [Jacob 5:20](#) “It also has been made manifest unto me by the power of the Holy Ghost.”

Commissions = [I Nephi 3:36](#) “The Holy Ghost giveth authority that I should speak these things.”

Directs = [Moroni 6:9](#) “As the power of the Holy Ghost led them whether to preach or exhort, or to pray, or to supplicate, or to sing, even so it was done.”

Fruits of the Spirit are produced by the Holy Spirit = [Gal.5: 22-23](#) “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; against such there is no law.”

Precepts = [II Nephi 12:39](#) “Their precepts shall be given by the power of the Holy Ghost.”

Calls men to the work = [Acts 13:2](#) “Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.”

Gives us peace, hope and joy = [Romans 15:13](#)

March 2020, Lesson #3

Study Scriptures for Consideration (1)

D&C 85:3 which light proceedeth forth from the presence of God, to fill the immensity of space. 3b The light which is in all things; which giveth life to all things;

D&C 85:18a And if your eye be single to my glory, your whole bodies shall be filled with light, and there shall be no darkness in you, and that body which is filled with light comprehendeth all things.

Alma 9:41 Therefore this life became a probationary state; a time to prepare to meet God; a time to prepare for that endless state, which has been spoken of by us, which is after the resurrection of the dead.

Revelation 12:17 Therefore, the dragon was wroth with the woman, (church) and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Genesis 7:32 And he beheld Satan, and he had a great chain in his hand, and it veiled the whole face of the earth with darkness; and he looked up and laughed, and his angels rejoiced.

3 Nephi 8:51 For Satan desireth to have you, that he may sift you as wheat; therefore ye must always pray unto the Father in my name.

Moroni 7:10-12 Wherefore, all things which are good, cometh of God; and that which is evil, cometh of the devil; for the devil is an enemy unto God, and fighteth against him continually, and inviteth and enticeth to sin, and to do that which is evil continually. 11 But behold, that which is of God, inviteth and enticeth to do good continually; wherefore, everything which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve him, is inspired of God. 12 Wherefore take heed, my beloved brethren, that ye do not judge that which is evil to be of God, or that which is good and of God, to be of the devil.

Acts 2:38-39 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 3:9 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Romans 13:12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.

D&C 6:9b Be faithful and diligent in keeping the commandments of God, and I will encircle thee in the arms of my love.

March 2020, Lesson #3

Study Scriptures for Consideration (2)

D&C 103:2 And again, verily I say unto you, the coming of the Lord draweth nigh, and it overtaketh the world as a thief in the night; therefore, gird up your loins that you may be the children of the light, and that day shall not overtake you as a thief.

D&C 5:4b and that you be firm in keeping the commandments wherewith I have commanded you, and if you do this, behold, I grant unto you eternal life.

D&C 9:3c then you must ask me if it be right, and if it is right, I will cause that your bosom shall burn within you; therefore, you shall feel that it is right. Also read D&C 8:1c

D&C 10:6-7 And now, verily, verily I say unto thee, Put thy trust in that Spirit which leadeth to do good; yea, to do justly, to walk humbly, to judge righteously; and this is my Spirit. 10:7a Verily, verily I say unto you, I will impart unto you of my Spirit, which shall enlighten your mind, which shall fill your soul with joy.

1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Isaiah 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil.

D&C 83:7a-d And now I give unto you a commandment to beware concerning yourselves, to give diligent heed to the words of eternal life; for you shall live by every word that proceedeth forth from the mouth of God. 7b For the word of the Lord is truth, and whatsoever is truth is light, and whatsoever is light is Spirit, even the Spirit of Jesus Christ; 7c and the Spirit giveth light to every man that cometh into the world; and the Spirit enlighteneth every man through the world, that hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit; 7d and everyone that hearkeneth to the voice of the Spirit, cometh unto God, even the Father.

Alma 16:219 cry unto him...over all your household...both morning, mid-day and evening...cry unto him against the devil, who is an enemy to all righteousness.

D&C 90:6c And that wicked one cometh and taketh away light and truth, through disobedience, from the children of men.

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world; he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

March 2020, Lesson #3

Questions for Consideration

1. What are some of the ways that we hide our light, and what can we do to let our lights shine?
2. According to I Thess. 5: 4-9, what do you need to do so that the day of the coming of the Lord does not overtake you as a thief?
3. How does I Thess. 5:4-9 relate to Ephesians 6:10-18?
4. According to Alma 14:41, what is this life all about?
5. When you read D&C 85:3 and see the new picture of the unexpected fireworks at conception, what is remarkable about this new discovery?
6. In Revelation 12:17, what does this mean to us today?
7. In Moroni 7:10, how does it say we are to tell right from wrong?
8. Romans 13:12 tells us to put on the armor of light; what is it, and how do we put it on?
9. I Cor. 2:14 says the natural man cannot receive what?
10. In Acts 2: 38-39, what is promised to those afar off in time?
11. In John 8:12, what do we need to do to walk in the light?